

THE "UNDERGROUND."

Federal Raids on Polygamy in Lehi

From the Lehi Centennial History

All over Utah there began now a zealous prosecution of the recent enactments of Congress against polygamy. In common with other towns in the Territory, Lehi received frequent visits from Federal officials in search of "cohabs."

Many instances, both tragic and humorous, transpired during the course of these prosecutions, which are intensely interesting and sometimes ludicrous to the later observer.

For instance, it is related that a Federal officer came to a certain home in Lehi in search of the father, but the only person he could find around the place was a boy about ten years old. Thinking to obtain some information that might be valuable, the officer asked the boy if he knew where any polygamists were. After a long pause, accompanied by much scratching of the head and digging of the bare toes into the earth, on the part of the child, his eyes suddenly brightened, he vigorously nodded his head and answered that he could take the officer to the hiding place of a polygamist.

Thinking that at last he was about to make an arrest and secure the accompanying reward, the visitor quickly dismounted and eagerly followed the boy around the house. Gravely leading him to the barn and with the utmost caution opening the gate to the yard, the boy proudly pointed to the object of their search ; and there with head erect and in the midst of his cowering wives, stood the polygamist- a rooster.

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